ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

for the

"Rand Administrative Site Maintenance Projects"

EA# OR-110-02-24

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MEDFORD DISTRICT
GRANTS PASS RESOURCE AREA

April 2002

Dear Reader:

We appreciate your interest in the BLM's public land management activities. We also appreciate your taking the time to review this environmental assessment (EA). If you would like to provide us with written comments regarding this project or EA, please send them to me at Bureau of Land Management, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504. If you would like to email your comments, you can send them to me at *or110mb@or.blm.gov*.

If you would like to comment but confidentiality is of concern to you, please be aware that comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review and may be published as part of the EA or other related documents or may be held in a file available for public inspection and review. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must clearly state this at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or officials of organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Abbie Jossie
Field Manager
Grants Pass Resource Area

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MEDFORD DISTRICT

EA COVER SHEET

RESOURCE AREA: *Grants Pass* FY & REPORT # EA Number OR-110-02-24

ACTION/TITLE: *Rand Administrative Site Maintenance Projects*
LOCATION: *T. 34S, R8W, Sec. 24, W.M.*

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GRANTS PASS RESOURCE AREA
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

"Rand Administrative Site Maintenance Projects"

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Purpose of and Need for Action and Alternatives

A. Introduction and Need for the Proposal

1. Introduction

The purpose of this environmental assessment (EA) is to assist in the decision-making process by assessing the environmental and human affects resulting from implementing the proposed project and/or alternatives. The EA will also assist in determining if an environmental impact statement (EIS) needs to be prepared or if a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) is appropriate.

This EA tiers to: (1) the Final EIS and Record of Decision (ROD) for the Medford District Resource Management Plan (October 1994); (2) the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl and its Attachment A entitled the Standards and Guidelines for Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (April 13, 1994); and (3) Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manager, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (January 2001).

The proposals are also based on and designed to be consistent, with the following river management plans: (1) the current Activity Plan for the Hellgate Recreation Section "Rogue National Wild & Scenic River" (November 1978) and (2) the "Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement" (November 2000).

2. Purpose of and Need for the Proposal

The Rand Administrative Site has several deferred maintenance and safety related concerns that need to be addressed. The purpose of the project is to remedy these conditions, to improve the safety conditions at the site, and to maintain the integrity of its National Historic Site status.

Drinking water distribution and treatment system: The drinking water distribution and treatment system at the Rand Administrative Site provides drinking water year around for employees and the general public. It is a system that must meet Federal and State drinking water quality standards and must provide verifiably safe drinking water (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA], Oregon Department of Human Services Drinking Water Program). The current water system is 25+ years old and needs to be upgraded to ensure that it meets water quality standards and provides safe drinking water to the public and employees.

Roof replacements: The Rand Administrative Site is an old CCC camp constructed in the 1930s and is listed on the "National Register of Historical Places." All the buildings located at Rand are within this

"Historic District." The BLM, in conjunction with Oregon's State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO), is required to maintain the integrity and historical values of all the buildings at Rand. Of the twelve buildings located at Rand seven of them have roofs that are in such a state of decay that replacement is necessary to ensure that they do not leak and cause structural damage.

Resurfacing / paving: The public parking area and approach to the visitor center from the Merlin-Galice road are presently unsurfaced. The gravel on the driving surfaces result in traction problems while entering and leaving the visitor center from the Merlin - Galice Road which in turn creates unsafe as well as dusty conditions. The roadway leading from the visitor center down to the crew quarters, mule barn and other structures is unsurfaced or has an oiled surface that is deteriorating. The parking by the crew quarters and gas shed is also unsurfaced. They present safety concerns due to loose gravel, uneven walking surfaces and drainage problems.

Woodshed Replacement: The woodshed has deteriorated to the point where its structural integrity and safety are in question. Reconstruction of structure is needed.

B. Scoping Issues Relevant to the Proposal

Several major issues of potential concern were raised by the planning team or the public during the scoping phase of developing the project proposals. The primary issues are:

1. Consistency of all proposed actions with the "Wild and Scenic Rivers Act."
2. Potential impact of the project on cultural, archeological and historical features.
3. Consistency with Section 404 "Clean Waters Act": Discharge fill into clean waters.
4. Impact of the proposed project on the "view" as seen from the river and Merlin - Galice Road.
5. Potential impact on the "recreational experience" of the public in the river corridor.

C. Proposed Action and/or Alternatives

1. Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

The No Action alternative would be to not implement any of the proposed actions: no paving of any of the road surfaces, continued reliance on the existing water system, and retaining the existing roofs. As such, the no action alternative provides a baseline for analyzing impacts of the action alternatives. It is included without regard for consistency with the RMP or state law.

2. Alternative 2: Proposed Action

a. Drinking water system upgrade

- From the source at "Hooks Gulch" (See Map ??) there is currently 2,155' of 2" PVC buried water

line leading to a 7,500 gallon storage tank. This line is in good condition having been replaced 7-8 years ago. The proposed action is to install two stainless steel pre-filter units in a 4'x4'x4' insulated wooden box attached to the side of the tank. Its purpose is to filter sediment out of the water just prior to its entering the tank.

- The proposed action includes cleaning the tank. All of the sediment which has accumulated inside the 7,500 gallon storage tank would be removed. The outside of the tank would be sandblasted and painted. The inside of the tank would, if necessary be sandblasted and painted in accordance with EPA standards for safe drinking water. A new overflow drain pipe would be welded to the top of the tank to direct any overflow water to the access road ditch.

- Between the storage tank and the water treatment building at the Rand Site, there is currently 2,376' of buried 2" waterline. The first 300' (approx.) of the water line below the tank would be rerouted to avoid the current erosion situation at the location of the existing buried line. It would be routed along the old skid trail thereby avoiding the historic tailings pile / dam feature. This rerouted waterline would be buried 18" deep using a backhoe for the first approximately 100' (because of rocky ground) and then a 4" walk behind trencher for the remaining approximately 200'. The next section (1,149') was recently replaced and is in good condition. The final 767' (which ends just before going under the Merlin-Galice road) is 40 year old poly-pipe that would be replaced with 2" Schedule 40 PVC pipe buried in an 18" deep trench to be dug with a a 4" walk behind trencher. The replacement trench / pipe would be routed to avoid the old can dump. The waterline from there to the Rand site was replaced in approximately 1978 and is in good condition. Backfilling of trenches will be done to match the natural surface levels.

- A new 10'x16' water treatment building would be constructed adjacent to the existing water treatment facility (i.e., between the caretaker's home and the Merlin-Galice Road). This building would be constructed on a concrete slab and designed and painted to match the caretaker's home. This location was selected because it is near the caretaker's home for ease of maintenance and monitoring. It is visually screened from viewers at the visitor's center and the Merlin-Galice Road by natural buffers and existing fencing. No new ground disturbance would be needed as this site is a former garden spot. The building would be constructed over the existing waterline thereby requiring only minor trenching. The existing water treatment facilities would be retained and in operation until the new system is operational. Then it would be removed.

- The proposed new water treatment system would include: pre-filters, state certified 1-micron filters, a UV disinfection system which meets NSF Standard 55 "Class A" requirements for water disinfection, and a ratio chlorine feeder. The feeder would provide for a 0.2 mg/l free chlorine residual maintained in the water distribution system as required by the EPA to insure disinfection. (Including a UV disinfection system eliminates the need for chlorine contact tanks and higher levels of free chlorine residual in the distribution system and results in a much smaller size building being needed to house the system.) The building would have drain to move waste water from the HACH monitor drains, the floor and sink drains, and the Chlorine-ratio-feeder to a sump separate from the Rand Site's sewage system.

- Construction of the water system treatment building, installation of the treatment equipment, connections to the existing waterline and removal of the old treatment facilities would be completed in the spring - early summer of 2002. Replacement of the 767' of poly-pipe, installation of the pre-tank filters, installation of the filters, and tank cleaning, sandblasting and painting would be done during the summer months of 2002. During work on the main storage tank, the waterline would bypass the tank and feed directly to the water treatment facility to maintain water service to Rand.

Work on the water tank and on the waterline west of the Merlin-Galice Road will be seasonally restricted to reduce potential disturbance and interruption of the reproductive cycle on nesting spotted owls should they be in the vicinity (area is unsurveyed). No activities on the tank or the waterline would occur between March 1 and June 30.

b. Roof restoration / replacement

There are twelve buildings located within the Rand Administrative site. Periodically, each of these buildings needs to have it's shake roof replaced. Seven of the buildings currently need new roofs (see Roofing Project Map): the Visitor Center, the boat shelter next to the Visitor's Center, the Boat Barn, the Mule Barn, the Caretakers Garage, Crew's Quarters, and the Gas Shed.

The long term objective is to replace of the roofs in a style typical of the site in the 1930's, the period of historical interest for the Rand Site.

The proposed action is to remove the old roofing materials, inspect the roof structure and repair as needed, and to install new roofing materials. Re-roofing would be done with fire resistant treated wood shakes such as Certi-Split Hand split Red Cedar Shakes No. 1 Grade. Shakes would be nailed on, not stapled. These shakes will weather to a muted tone.

In order to lessen the potential impact on bats which are known to use these buildings as summer roost sites and possibly maternity roosts, roofing work would not be conducted between May 15 and September 1. If it is determined that a building is not used as a bat maternity roost or that the building is not being used by a special status bat species, this seasonal constraint would be waived.

In order to minimize the potential impact and displacement of the bats, work would be scheduled such that no more than 2 buildings are being reroofed / repaired simultaneously. Additionally, work on the boat house and the mule barn (the structures most heavily used by bats) would be scheduled to occur as late in the season and the two buildings would not be worked on simultaneously.

The reroofing would be started in 2002 and completed over a 4-5 year period as funding is available.

c. Road and parking areas resurfacing

The objective of the proposed resurfacing the main parking lot in front of the visitor center is to reduce

the dust and improve safety for vehicles entering and exiting the Merlin-Galice highway. The objective of resurfacing selected areas within the Rand Site is to improve drainage, to direct rainfall away from the foundations of the buildings for structure protection, to reduce maintenance and to reduce puddling / muddy conditions during the winter. Asphalt and gravel would be used depending on the location.

The areas proposed for resurfacing are shown on Paving Project Map. They include: the approach to the visitor center from the Merlin-Galice road; the drive-through road in front of the visitor center; the visitor center parking area; the access road to the crew quarters, mule barn and river house; and the parking areas near gas and oil house. These areas would have their existing surface ground up using "cold plainer grinding equipment." A grader would work the material while grading the surfaces for proper drainage to direct water away from buildings and create a sheet drainage condition from the surfaced areas. A base course of up to 4" deep of 3/4 minus rock would be graded over the surface and roller compacted. Class "C" ODOT hot mix asphalt 2-3" deep would be applied.

Prior to construction and tying the visitor center's parking area paving to the Merlin-Galice Road, an "approach permit" would be obtained from Josephine County as required. Joining the parking lot paving to the county road would be done in accordance with county road standards.

Paving of the parking area would be done during the summer (2002 or later) when weather conditions are optimal. The remainder of the paving project would be completed in stages over a 1-3 year period as funding is available. Three to five days would be needed for prep work and resurfacing. The project work would be limited to weekdays as these days typically have less traffic at the visitor center. As much as possible, work around the visitor center would be accomplished after the morning hours when visitor use is the highest.

3. Project Design Features

Project design features (PDFs) are included for the purpose of reducing anticipated adverse environmental impacts identified in the scoping process and which might stem from the implementation of the proposed action or alternatives. This section outlines these PDFs.

a. Botanical Resources

If Survey and Manage, federal or state listed, candidate or Bureau Sensitive species are found, those species requiring microsite protection would have a minimum 100-foot radius no-harvest, no-ground disturbance protection buffer established. For other species in these categories that may not require microsite protection, mitigation measures would be developed on a case-by-case basis.

b. Archeological resource protection

The trenches in the garden area and along the pipeline would be inspected by an archeological technician or an archeologist for the presence and/or absence of cultural material before the water

pipeline is installed.

c. Waste building material disposal

All waste building materials (primarily wood and concrete) would be hauled away in a timely manner `and disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility.

Chapter 2
Environmental Consequences

A. Introduction

Only substantive site-specific environmental changes that would result from implementing the proposed action or alternatives are discussed in this chapter. If an ecological component is not discussed, it should be assumed that the resource specialists have considered affects to that component and found the proposed action or alternatives would have minimal or no affects. Similarly, unless addressed specifically, the following were found not to be affected by the proposed action or alternatives: air quality; areas of critical environmental concern (ACEC); cultural or historical resources; Native American religious sites; prime or unique farmlands; floodplains; endangered, threatened or sensitive plant, animal or fish species; water quality; wetlands/riparian zones; wild and scenic rivers; and wilderness areas. In addition, hazardous waste or materials are not directly involved in the proposed action or alternatives.

General or "typical" affects from projects similar in nature to the proposed action or alternatives are also described in the EISs and plans this EA is tiered to.

B. Site Specific and Cumulative Beneficial or Adverse Effects of the Alternatives

1. Resource: Soil / Water

a. Affected Environment

The Rand Administrative Site, including the water supply system, is located above the 50-year flood plain of the Rogue River. The lower part of the Rand site, that is the flat area where the blacksmith's shop, boat barn, and the woodshed are located, is likely located within the 100-year flood plain. Soil and slopes are extremely variable with very steep shallow to bedrock Vermisa at the upper part of the water delivery system, moderate sloping Pollard at the lower water line and Foehlin at upper Rand small parking/Ranger Station area, and nearly level Newberg at the middle Rand area (same area as in the 100-year flood plain). Average annual precipitation is 38 inches.

b. Environmental consequences

1) Alternative 1: No Action

Under the no action alternative, the existing drinking water system would continue to provide drinking water for staff and visitors with the probability that within ten years the water quality would not meet drinking water standards. This is based on the assumption that the system would deteriorate and federal drinking water standards will become somewhat stricter.

Also, the existing erosion situation at the existing upper buried water line would continue and may create a condition in which the line will break adding to the erosion problem increasing the rate of erosion.

Under the no action alternative, surface drainage in the Rand complex would continue to accumulate in driving areas.

2) Alternative 2: Proposed Action

Under the proposed action, there would be no erosion or sediment generated from this project. There would be no oil contamination of water from newly paved areas because class "C" hot mix bonds very quickly with the rock and sand fractions of the asphalt as the asphalt cools. Drinking water supplied to the public and staff will have higher assurance that it is and will continue through the long term to meet EPA drinking water standards. All surfaces to be paved are heavily compacted so amounts of runoff water would be the same as current but drainage off the site would be improved. There would be no additional erosion.

2. Resource: Wildlife

a. Affected Environment

The Rand Administrative Site is characterized by multiple structures, landscaped vegetation, hardened parking lots and roads. It is a highly modified site compromised by a heavily traveled road and extensive development of adjacent properties.

Although bald eagles and spotted owls might occasionally perch or forage in the vicinity of Rand Administrative Site, it is not considered suitable nesting habitat. The buildings and parking lot are not considered suitable habitat for red-tree voles, *Helminthoglypta hertlieni*, or *Monadenia chaceana*.

Several of the buildings at the Rand Administrative Site have historically provided roosting habitat for unidentified bat species. Observations suggest that this use is primarily associated with the spring, summer and early fall season. Rafters, siding and, in one case, the basement are used seasonally as roost sites. Based upon the season of use, it is likely that at least some of the buildings may be used as maternity roosts.

The water tank and water line are characterized by Douglas-fir and canyon live oak overstory. The water tank, current water line and proposed water line are located on disturbed sites with compacted soils associated with mining activities, road construction and previous water line installation.

Although bald eagle and spotted owl foraging may occur within the vicinity of the water tank and water line, these areas are not considered suitable nesting habitat. The water tank and water line are not considered suitable habitat for red-tree voles, *Helminthoglypta hertlieni*, or *Monadenia chaceana.*

b. Environmental Consequences

The proposed action would not result in any loss of suitable habitat for threatened, endangered, or survey and manage species. The primary impacts of the proposed action would be associated with temporary disturbance during project implementation.

There is unsurveyed suitable spotted owl habitat within 0.25 miles of Rand, the water tank and water line. Rand and its associated habitat are in close proximity to a heavily traveled road and numerous home developments. Based on this, it is anticipated that project activities proposed for the Rand site would not exceed background levels of disturbance.

Roof restoration would not remove bat habitat, but may result in temporary displacement of bats from buildings during project implementation. Because buildings are in close proximity and provide numerous opportunities for roosting, displaced bats can move to adjacent structures during project implementation. It is anticipated that this displacement would be temporary and roosting would resume in buildings when the project is completed.

3. Resource: Fisheries

The Rogue River has perennial flows and anadromous fish use. Coho salmon (which are federally listed as threatened) and coho critical habitat are present in the segment of the river adjacent to the project site. The riparian reserve width is two site potential trees heights, which is greater than or equal to approximately 360 feet. Portions of the proposed road resurfacing are within this riparian reserve. The proposed road resurfacing would be located within the Rand Visitors Center facility, on a flat bench which serves as a parking area. This area was constructed from fill material placed behind a retaining wall, is landscaped, and does not support any natural riparian vegetation. The waterline replacement would be located away from an intermittent non-fish bearing stream in the project area.

No effects to fisheries or aquatic resources are anticipated from the proposed actions. This determination includes short and long term, direct and indirect, and cumulative effects. Impacts have been considered temporally on the short term and long term scales, and spatially at the project/site and watershed scales. There is no effect to coho salmon or coho critical habitat from the proposed action. Essential Fish Habitat is not adversely affected by the proposed action. The proposed action does not hinder the attainment of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives of the Northwest Forest Plan.

4. Resource: Botanical

a. Affected Environment

Much of the Rand developed area was surveyed for both vascular and non-vascular species in the

context of evaluating the Smullin Visitor Center project proposal. The waterline has also been surveyed as far as the storage tank for both vascular and non-vascular species. Only the waterline is addressed here, since the rest of the maintenance projects are related to buildings or already established road surfaces.

The proposed waterline begins across the road from Rand in a non-native grassy opening. It then follows an old access road to the water tanks. Tree cover is dominated by Douglas- fir, but ponderosa pine, white oak and canyon live oak are also common. The shrub layer is primarily poison oak. Non-native grasses include *Dactylis glomerata, Lolium perenne* and *Bromus tectorum.*

Two populations of the Bureau Sensitive species, *Sophora leachiana* have been found near the water tank. This rare endemic has a narrow range with Rand being one of its population centers. The species prefers openings and appears to take advantage of disturbance as long as population areas are not obliterated by ground disturbing activities.

b. Environmental Consequences

1) Alternative 1: No Action

No effects should occur to botanical resources under No Action. There would be less of a chance of individual *Sophora leachiana* plants being damaged than under the proposed action.

2) Alternative 2: Proposed Action

Although it may be difficult to avoid every individual plant and some individual plants may be damaged, the populations of *Sophora leachiana* would not be adversely impacted (i.e. the viability of the two populations would not be compromised). If these populations are avoided during the backhoe work, these populations may actually increase and spread into the re-routed area.

Cumulative Effects - No foreseeable cumulative effects have been identified that would result from this project.

5. Resource: Recreation / Social (Including W&S and VRM)

a. Affected Environment.

The Rand site is located within the Recreational section of the Rogue Wild and Scenic River. It is with VRM class 1. Under a Class I designation, some very limited management activities may occur as long as modifications to the landscape do not attract attention to the casual observer.

b. Environmental Consequences.

These project would have no effect on scenery. They are either out of view of the river or are replacing materials that are presently visible. There would be no changes in the view as seen from the river. The management constraints for Class I would be met.

6. Resource: Cultural / Historic Sites

a. Affected Environment

1) The Rand Site

Affected Environment pertinent to the Water Treatment Building - The Rand Ranger Station was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1999. As administration headquarters for the Galice Ranger district of the Siskiyou National Forest, the Rand Ranger Station played a critical early role in fire suppression, trail and telephone line construction, homestead entry management and timber sales. In September 1933, Rand Camp No. 1650 of the Civilian Conservation Corps opened on a large flat south of the ranger station. Between 1933 and 1941 Corps enrollees constructed roads, bridges, and buildings in the Canyon and substantially improved the Rand Ranger Station facility. For its associations with the Civilian Conservation Corps, an important federal response to the Depression, and an organization that helped shape this isolated area, the Rand Ranger Station Ensemble meets Criteria A of the National Register of Historic Places, in the area of Government. The Ensemble's historic period of significance extends from 1933 when the Civilian Conservation Corps arrived at Rand to 1941 when the Camp disbanded as war threatened.

This National Register listed site is approximately nine acres in size and contains twelve buildings/structures, nine of which were built during 1933-37 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) for the Siskiyou National Forest. The nine contributing buildings include the ranger's residence, a garage, the protective assistant's residence, an office, the fire warehouse, a barn, a blacksmith shop, the gas and oil house, and woodshed. These buildings are arranged from north to south in a linear configuration accommodating the restrictions of the narrow bench on which it is situated. The 3 non-contributing buildings/structures are the "new" ranger's residence, the bunkhouse, and the boat shed. The new ranger's residence and the bunkhouse were erected in 1958 after the initial period of construction and are sited outside the original compound.

This 1958 "new" ranger's residence is a one-story wood frame L-shaped building and measures approximately 26 feet by 40 feet. It has a poured concrete foundation, a full basement, one-over-one double hung wood window, a pitched, shake-clad roof, and enclosed eaves. The exterior is clad in board-and-batten wood siding. A covered carport adjoins the dwelling on the west elevation. A garden approximately 30 ft. x 80 ft. is located on the south and west side of the "new" ranger's residence. This building is in good condition and has experienced little alteration. In fact, the "new" ranger's residence has been described as unobtrusive. While it does not repeat the design of the original structures, it is designed simply with a scale and exterior wall materials that blend with the older buildings in the compound.

Affected Environment pertinent to the re-Roofing - The nine contributing buildings/structures of the Rand Ranger Station National Register site were built as the administration headquarters for the Galice Ranger district of the Siskiyou National Forest by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). These buildings were constructed between 1933-37. The architectural classification of these contributing buildings/structures is "Oregon Rustic".

The predominating style of architecture found in Forest Service structures build during the Depression was "rustic." This uniquely American architectural style . . . [was] a natural outgrowth of (late) nineteenth century romanticism about nature and the western frontier. As accessories of nature, these structures employed the use of native materials to blend with the environment and the use of early pioneer and regional building techniques; architecture was closely integrated with landscape (Throop 1979:31).

Each Forest Service Regional Office undertook to design structures appropriate to climate characteristics, vegetation and forest cover, utilizing the predominant native building materials (Throop 1979:32).

A matter of terminology. Today a *shingle* is tapered and smooth sawn on both surfaces for a uniform appearance. A *shake* is split to reveal the uneven natural grain of the wood on the face and is usually much thicker than a shingle.

An examination of the 1930s photos of the Rand Site historic properties indicates that there were wooden shingle roofs. Historically wooden shingles were usually thin, relatively narrow, of varying length, and almost always smooth (Preservation Briefs #19). The CCC is known for the quality and craftsmanship of their buildings. In all probability, the shingles used for the original roofs were hand split and dressed or planed with a drawknife to make them fit evenly on the roof.

Affected Environment pertinent to the Road resurfacing - The style of architecture found in the Rand compound structures which were built during the Depression is "rustic." This uniquely American architectural style . . . [was] a natural outgrowth of (late) nineteenth century romanticism about nature and the western frontier. As accessories of nature, these structures employed the use of native materials to blend with the environment and the use of early pioneer and regional building techniques; architecture was closely integrated with landscape (Throop 1979:31).

Landscaping was an integral part of the planning for Forest Service administrative compounds (Throop 1979:35). The setting and landscaping at Rand contributes to its rustic feel. The unpaved nature of many of the roadways at Rand and the large expanses of green lawn also contribute to the rustic setting and feel.

The National Register nomination form, written in 1998, indicates that "Virtually all elements of the Rand Ranger Station, site location, setting, design, construction materials and *landscape features*, remain intact. The property exhibits a high degree of integrity in materials, workmanship and overall

feeling."

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation – Standard No. 2 states "The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided."

2) Pipeline

The proposed pipeline is outside the boundaries of the Rand Ranger Station National Register site. A cultural resource survey of the proposed water pipeline was conducted in March 2002 with the following findings:

- The 767' of new water line passes close to an old can dump, dating from the turn of the 19th century to about 1940.

- The southern part of the 300' of re-routed water line would be buried in what was the water holding feature of an historic dam. This water line also crosses a rock tailings pile.

b. Environmental Consequences

1) Water treatment System - treatment house

The garden where the treatment facility would be located is screened from view from the Merlin-Galice Highway by forest vegetation. The garden is also screened from view from the driveway by a 6'6" high wooden fence. Because the new structure would be screened from view, designed to match the elements of the "New" Ranger's residence and painted to match it, there would be no adverse impact on this National Register site. This aspect of the project has been consulted on with the State Historic Preservation Office and they have indicated their concurrence with this assessment.

To make the new water treatment facility functional, some trenching would be required to install pipelines and electrical lines in the garden area. The depth of these trenches would be approximately 2 feet, well below the depth currently disturbed by tilling to plant the garden. There is a slight potential that a pre-historic site may be disturbed by this trenching. Because of the current disturbance and leaf litter it is not possible to determine the presence/absence of a buried site in this area.

2) Water treatment System - Pipeline

No impacts on cultural / historical features are identified by this portion of the project.

3) Roof Replacement Project

No adverse impacts on cultural / historical features are identified that would result from this aspect of

the project. Utilization of the specified shakes will and replacing the roofs to better reflect the period of historical significance will enhance the site's historical value.

4) Road and parking areas resurfacing

The proposed paving work, while improving the maintenance situation, will also retain the qualities of the space in a manner consistent with the conditions of the period of historical significance. As a part of it, drainage around the buildings will be improved providing long term protection to the foundations.

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Chapter 3
Agencies and Persons Consulted

A. Public Involvement

Upon completion of the EA, a formal 15 day public comment period will be held.

B. Agencies consulted

The Oregon Department of Human Services Drinking Water Program was consulted during the design of this water treatment system. The Bureau of Land Management will list the Rand drinking water system with the Oregon Public Drinking Water System.

Josephine County Public Works Department has been consulted with regarding interface between the Visitor Center parking lot paving and the Merlin-Galice Road.

Josephine County Sanitary Department and the EPA with regard to disposal of waste water from the water treatment building.

The Oregon State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) has been consulted with regarding the building of the water treatment was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). They have concurred (April 3, 2002) with the BLM's determination of no adverse impact on this National Register site.

Consultation with USFWS and NMFS has been determined not to be necessary as there are no impacts on ESA listed fisheries or wildlife species identified.

C. Availability of Document and Comment Procedures

Copies of the EA document will be available for formal public review in the BLM Medford District Office. The EA will be posted on the Medford District's web site (*www.or.blm.gov/Medford*) under planning documents / environmental assessments and sent to parties know to have a potential interest in this project. Written comments concerning the EA will be accepted for 15 days after the announcement of the EA availability appears in the newspaper. Written comments should be sent to the BLM, Medford District Office, Grants Pass Field Manager, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504. E-mail comments may be sent to *or110mb@or.blm.gov*.

APPENDIX A
Issues and Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Discussion

An alternative to that would include all of the proposed action except resurfacing of the roads and parking areas in the lower portion of the Rand Site. This was not developed as a separate alternative as the decision maker could accept or reject all or part of the proposed actions. Not resurfacing the lower roads and parking areas is thus within the scope and range of the alternative and could be a part of the decision.

APPENDIX B
Project Design Considerations
When Replacing Roofing on Historical Structures

One of the important elements of the architecture of any building is the roof. The roof imparts much of the architectural character. It defines the style and contributes to the building's aesthetics (Preservation Briefs #4).

The Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation" call for the repair or replacement of missing architectural features "based on accurate duplication of features, substantiated by historic, physical, or pictorial evidence rather than on conjectural designs."

Not only are we trying to preserve the integrity of the buildings themselves by replacing the roof but also the building's architectural integrity. Roofs are an important element of the architecture of the building. The accurate duplication of a wooden shingle roof would help ensure the preservation of the building's architectural integrity.

In order to assist with the preservation of historic buildings the Secretary of Interior has developed Preservation Standards which are codified in 36CFR67. 36CFR67.7 (c) states that "the quality of materials and craftsmanship used in a rehabilitation project must be commensurate with the quality of materials and craftsmanship of the historic building in question."

In addition, the National Park Service has produced a series of technical bulletins called Preservation Briefs. The Preservation Briefs applicable to this project are Preservation Brief #4 Roofing for Historic Buildings and Preservation Brief # 19 The Repair and Replacement of Historic Wooden Shingle Roofs.

On a wooden shingle roof, it is important to not only to match the size, shape, texture, and configuration of historic shingles, but also to match the craftsmanship and details that characterize the historic roof. Proper installation and maintenance would extend the life of the new roof (Preservation Briefs #19) .

Modern commercially available shakes are generally thicker than the historic hand split counterpart and are usually left "undressed" with a rough, corrugated surface (Preservation Briefs #19).

The use of modern shingles (sawn on both surfaces) or modern unaltered "shakes"
(thicker than historic shingles) is not historically accurate for the buildings at the Rand Ranger Station National Register site. The use of these two types of roofing material would affect the architectural integrity of these buildings.

Preservation Bulletin #19 provides information on the does and don'ts of historic wooden shingle roof

replacements:

Highest priority in Replacement shingles:

-best quality wood with a similar surface texture
-matching size and shape: thickness, width, length
-matching installation pattern: exposure length, overlap, hips, ridges, valleys, etc.
-matching decorative features: fancy butts, color, exposed nails

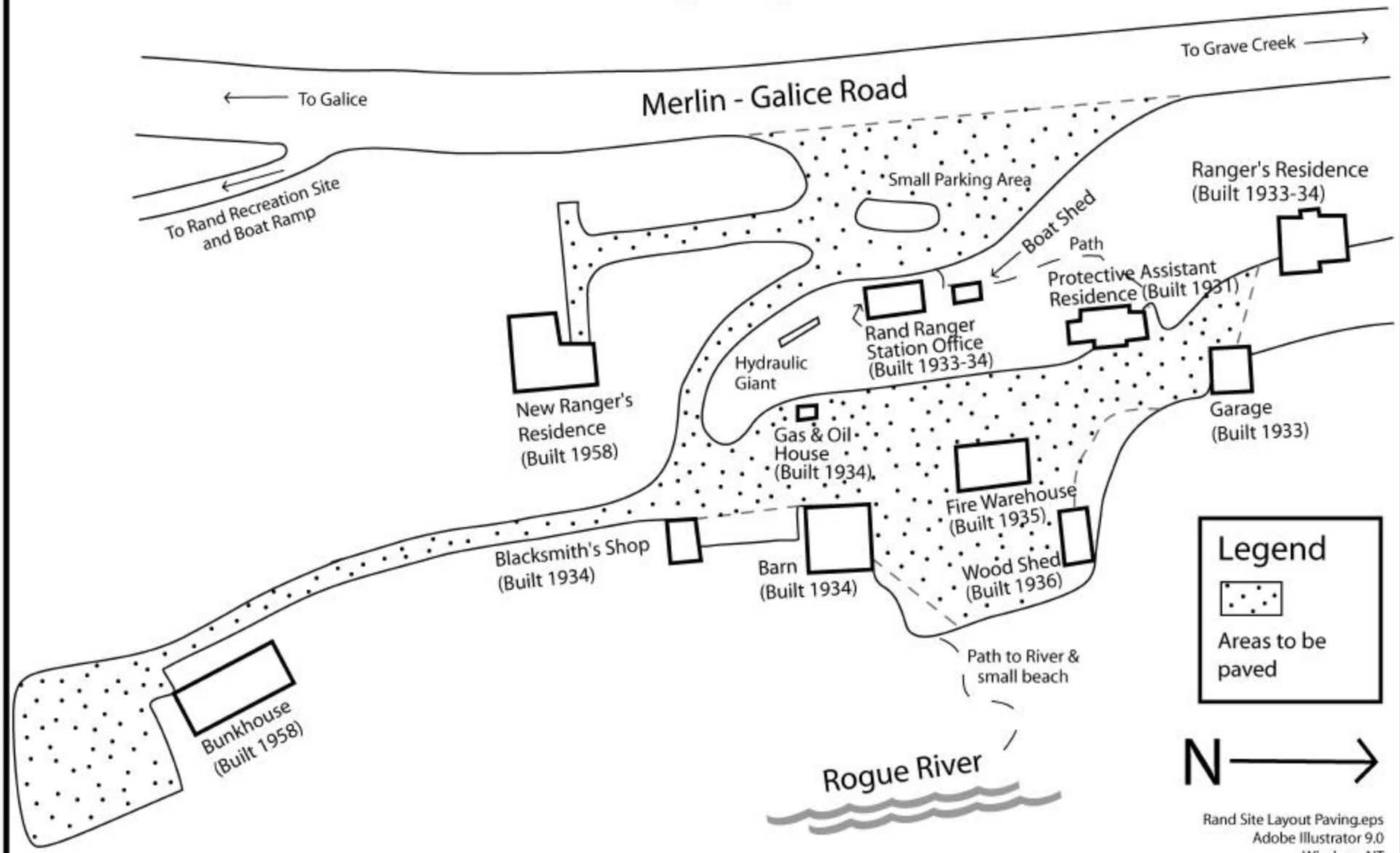
Areas of Acceptable Differences:

-species of wood
-method of fabrication of shingle, if visual appearance matches
-use of fire retardants, or preservative treatments, if visual impact is minimal
-use of modern flashing, if sensitively installed
-use of small sleepers for ventilation, if the visual impact is minimal and rake boards are sensitively treated.
-method of nailing, if the visual pattern matches

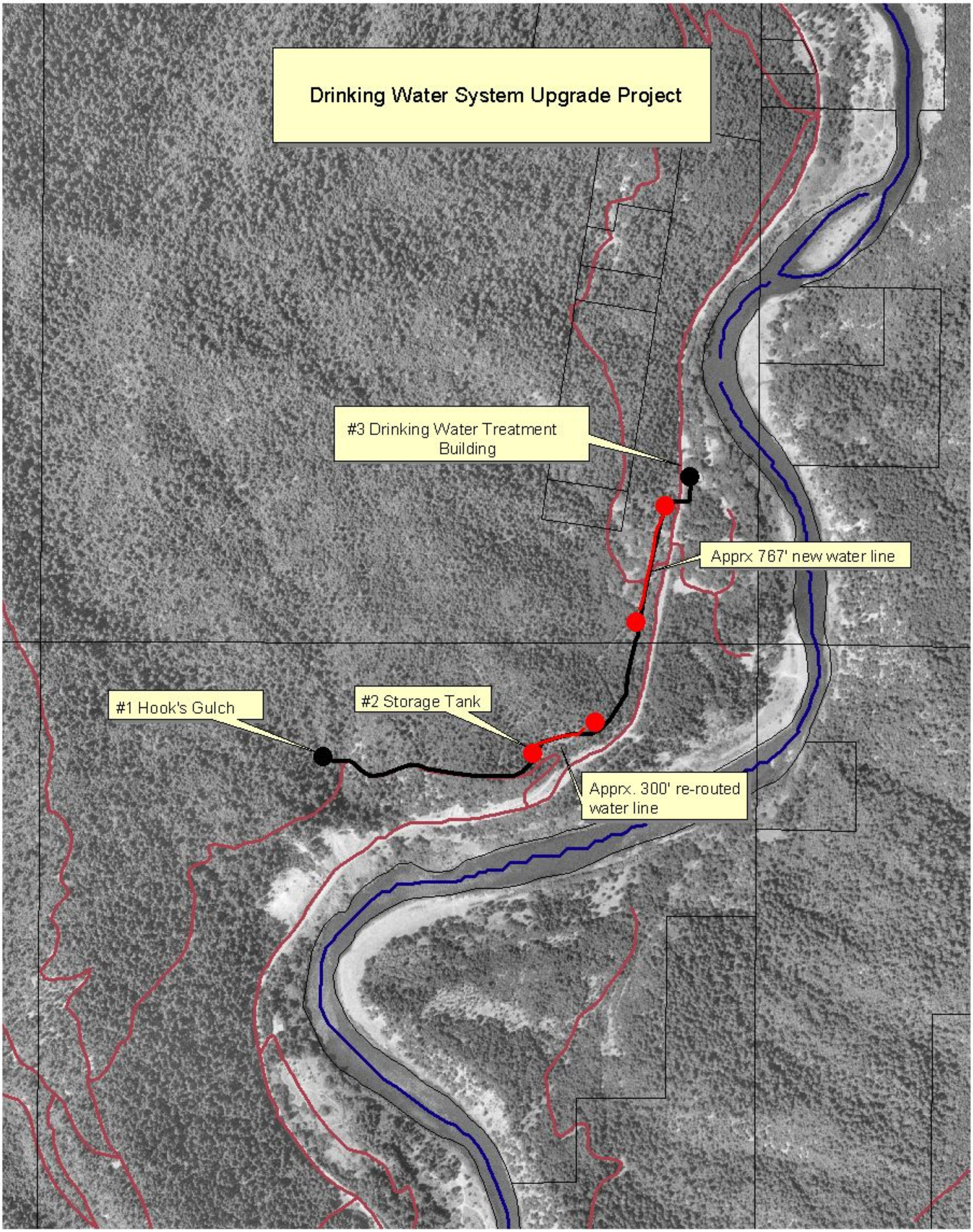
Treatments and Materials to Avoid:

-highly textured wood surfaces and irregular butt ends, unless documented
-standardized details (prefab hips, ridges, panels, etc.) unless documented
-too wide shingles or those with flat grain (which may curl), unless documented

Rand Administrative Site Maintenance
Project EA
Paving Project



Rand Site Layout Paving.eps
Adobe Illustrator 9.0
Windows NT
B. Brown 3/15/02


Drinking Water System Upgrade Project
#3 Drinking Water Treatment Building
Apprx 767' new water line
#1 Hook's Gulch
#2 Storage Tank
Apprx. 300' re-routed water line